

What Is A Federal Election

A "Federal Election" is any general, special, or primary election held solely or in part for the purpose of selecting, nominating, or electing any candidate for the office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the United States Senate, Member of the United States House of Representatives, Delegates from the District of Columbia, Guam, Virgin Islands, and American Samoa, and Resident Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Who Can Vote



The law entitles both the eligible spouse and other family members, 18 years or older, to vote absentee in any Federal, State and local elections. The family members of the servicemember are considered to be in the same category of absentee voter as the servicemember and generally should follow the same procedures. Family members residing overseas, who are U.S. citizens and who have never resided within the U. S. usually claim their parent's legal state of residence as their own.

REGISTERING TO VOTE

Registration requirements vary from state to state. Many states allow the voter to register and request an absentee ballot by submitting a single Federal Post Card Application (FPCA). However, other states may require the use of two separate FPCA forms; one to register, and a

Legal State of Residence

For voting purposes, your "legal state of residence" can be the state where you last resided prior to entering military service or the state which you have since claimed as your legal residence. To claim a new legal residence you must have simultaneous physical presence and the intent to reside at the location as your primary residence. Servicemembers and their family members may change their legal residence every time they change permanent duty stations or they may retain their legal residence without change. A legal officer should be consulted before legal residence is changed because there are usually other factors which should be considered besides voting. Be sure to enter the complete address of your residence, including street or rural route and number, when completing the residence section of the FPCA. Even though you no longer maintain formal ties such as property ownership to that residence, the address is needed to place you in a proper voting district or ward.



State Residence & Taxes



Exercising your right to vote in Federal elections only does not affect the determination of residence or domicile for purposes of any tax imposed under

Federal, state or local law. Voting in a Federal election only may not be used as the sole basis to determine residency for the purpose of imposing state and local taxes. If you claim a particular state as your residence and have other ties with that state in addition to voting, then you may be liable for state and Local taxation, depending upon that particular state law. Consult your Voting Action Office for particulars.

Can You FAX Your Vote?

The use of electronic transmission for absentee voting **IS NOT** universally accepted among the states. Generally, there are three possibilities or combinations allowed by states:

- Send the FPCA or registration and ballot request by FAX.
- Receive the ballot by FAX
- Return the voted ballot by FAX

Consult your command Voting Action Officer for these procedures.

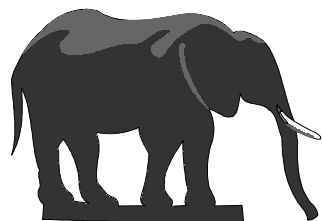
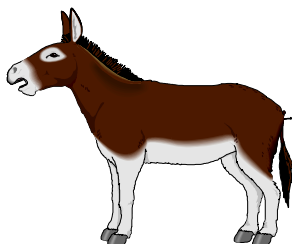
The FAX number for all election-related materials is (800) 363-8683 or Autovan 223-5527.



Election Issues Candidates Positions

In addition to reading U.S. news magazines and newspapers, both the Democratic and Republican parties maintain overseas offices and have information pertaining to candidates and issues. These party organizations can be contacted by writing:

Democrats Abroad
P.O. Box 6430
Alexandria, VA 22306-
0430



Republicans Abroad
310 First Street S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Armed Forces radio and television broadcast American news are primary information sources on election issues in overseas settings.

The League of Women Voters publishes extensive information on candidates and issues. Their main office is:

1730 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

OVERSEASMANSHIP INFORMATION BROCHURE

DEVELOPED IN COOPERATION WITH:

PERS-6

NAVY WIFELINE

BUMED

**OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS**

**OFFICE OF THE
MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER
OF THE NAVY**

OVERSEASMANSHIP

ABSENTEE VOTING



Any questions which cannot be answered by your command Voting Action Officer should be directed to the:

Director
Federal Voting Assistance Program
Office of the Secretary of Defense
Pentagon, RM 1B 457
Washington, D.C. 20301

OVERSEASMANSHIP